

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 20044

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WA, SF, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: TRIPARTITE DEMARCHE ON NAMIBIA

1. DURING CALL BY AF/S DIRECTOR-DESIGNATE WISNER AND EMBOFF ON JULY 8, QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA HAREL SAID THAT THREE WEEKS AGO THE UK HAD SUBMITTED TO THE FRENCH ADRAFT DECLARATION ON NAMIBIA WHICH THE UK SUGGESTED BE PROPOSED TO THE SAG IN A US-UK-FRENCH DEMARCHE TO BE MADE BEFORE AUGUST 31. HAREL SAID THAT THE FRENCH FAVOR A RENEWED TRILATERAL EFFORT TO MOVE THE SOUTH AFRICANS ON NAMIBIA PRIOR TO THE NEXT UNSC MEETING ON THE SUBJECT (HE THOUGHT AUGUST 8 WOULD BE A GOOD TARGET DATE), BUT ARE UNSURE WHAT THE CONTENT OF A NEW APPROACH SHOULD BE AND VERY DUBIOUS ABOUT THE BRITISH PROPOSAL. HARRASSED BY THE UGANDAN HIJACKING, HAREL COULD NOT RECALL THE EXACT TERMS OF THE STATEMENT THE UK WOULD HAVE THE THREE GOVERNMENTS URGE THE SAG TO MAKE, BUT THOUGHT IT INCLUDED: PROVISION FOR UN SUPERVISION BOTH BEFORE AND DURING NAMIBIAN ELECTIONS; AGREEMENT TO MAKE WALVIS BAY PART OF NAMIBIA; AND ACCEPTANCE OF SWAPO AS A MAJOR, BUT NOT THE SOLE, INTERLOCUTER.

2. HAREL SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE BRITISH
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ARE MOVING AWAY FROM WHAT WAS UNTIL NOW A MORE OR

LESS AGREED EC-9, US-UK-FRENCH POSITION ON NAMIBIA
TOWARDS NYERERE'S IDEAS ON HOW TO HANDLE SOUTH AFRICA.
THE FRENCH ARE MUCH MORE PRUDENT, HAREL SAID, AND
ARE OPPOSED TO ANY ATTEMPT TO SANCTION SOUTH AFRICA.
DURING UN DEBATE THE WEST SHOULD STRESS THE PRINCIPLE
OF FREE TRADE AND STATE CLEARLY THAT IT IS NOT PRE-
PARED TO LET RHODESIA BE A PRECEDENT FOR OTHER SANC-
TIONS WHICH THE AFRICANS ARE LIKELY TO PUSH, HE SAID.
THE WEST CAN COVER ITSELF POLITICALLY, HE THOUGHT,
BY STRONGLY ENCOURAGING PROGRESS TOWARDS NAMIBIAN
INDEPENDENCE, CONDEMNING APARTHEID AND NOT RECOGNIZING
THE TRANSKEI (SEE SEPTEL). UNDERLING THE IMPORTANCE
OF RAPID TRILATERAL CONSULTATIONS, HAREL REQUESTED
THE AMERICAN REACTION TO THE UK PROPOSAL.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE UNAWARE OF THE STATUS OF TRILATER-
AL TALKS ON NAMIBIA AND WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE
ON HOW TO REPLY TO THE QUAI.
RUSH

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